

Message Text

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08393 201554Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W
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P 201520Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0202

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 8393

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, US, IS, XF

SUBJECT: AID TO ISRAEL

1. I ASSUME AT APPROPRIATE TIME WE WILL GET DETAILS HERE OF OUR PROPOSED DOLS 2 BILLION ASSISTANCE GRANT TO ISRAEL. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I WHOLEHEARTEDLY CONCUR WITH PRESIDENT'S PROPOSED LINE OF ACTION.

2. I HOPE, HOWEVER, THAT NO ONE IN WASHINGTON IS THINKING OF ADMINISTERING THIS AID THROUGH ANY FORM OF MAAG/MEDT OR OTHER VARIET WHICH WOULD RESULT IN LARGE-SCALE, AT LEAST SEMI-PERMANENT US MILITARY PRESENCE HERE. AS I BELIEVE IS OBVIOUS TO ALL CONCERNED, EMERGENCY AIRLIFT OPERATION IS GOING VERY SMOOTHLY WITH ISRAELIS ABLE TO TAKE POSSESSION OF AND IMMEDIATELY UTILIZE THE VAST MAJORITY OF ITEMS RECEIVED. WHERE TECHNICAL HELP IS REQUIRED, IT IS BEING PROVIDED BY ADDITIONAL CIVILIAN TECH REPS ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT IN COUNTRY. I SEE NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD NOT CONTINUE CURRENT PRACTICES WHICH APPEAR TO BE WORKING VERY WELL. OUR LATEST INFO FROM AIR FORCE CHANNELS SUGGESTS AIRLIFT ABOUT ONE-THIRD COMPLETE. IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE, THEREFORE, AIRLIFT SHOULD TERMINATE AND THE 50 SOME USAF PERSONNEL CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN THIS ACTIVITY WILL DEPART.

3. TO DATE, MY DATT AND DAO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ABSORB
SECRET

PAGE 02 TEL AV 08393 201554Z

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF COORDINATING AIRLIFT HERE AND PERFORM THESE AND NORMAL DAO DUTIES IN TIME OF CRISIS IN OUTSTANDING MANNER. I HAVE NO DOUBTS THAT THIS WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE CASE. WHEN THE EMERGENCY NATURE OF OUR

RESUPPLY EFFORT IS OVER THE DAO SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO WHATEVER
IS NECESSARY HERE FOR COORDINATION OF THE MILITARY SUPPLY PROGRAM.

4. TO RECAPITULATE, I WOULD APPRECIATE ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON
OUR GRANT PROGRAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BUT THE MAJOR PURPOSE
OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO PROVIDE YOU WITH AMMUNITION IN CASE
YOU HAVE TO SHOOT DOWN ANY ILL CONCEIVED MAAG-TYPE IDEAS THAT
MIGHT RAISE THEIR UGLY HEADS.
KEATING

SECRET

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